



Call for Proposals for Impact Evaluations 2020-2022

The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and ETH's Center for Development and Cooperation (NADEL) are pleased to invite Swiss NGOs working in international development and cooperation to participate in the third round of the Impact Award.

An impact evaluation is a tool within the larger toolkit of monitoring, evaluation and learning to increase the effectiveness of development projects and programs. To promote the use of evidence in Swiss development cooperation, SDC will sponsor two impact evaluations conducted by Swiss NGOs between 2020 and 2022. The two award winners will receive a grant of 50,000 Swiss Francs each to conduct an impact evaluation of a development intervention, and will get the opportunity to exchange with technical experts at NADEL.

Swiss NGOs in international development and cooperation are invited to submit proposals for an impact evaluation that seeks to analyse the impact of a development intervention in a low- or lower-middle income country. In particular, we invite impact evaluations within one of the following sectors: Agriculture and Food Security, Employment and Income, Gender, Governance, Migration, and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH).

For one out of the two grants, preferential treatment will be given to small organizations with an annual budget of less than 5 million CHF. NGOs that have not won the impact award in previous years (2015 or 2017) will be favoured. All NGOs planning to submit a proposal should partner with an academic institution or organization with demonstrated expertise in conducting impact evaluations, using rigorous methods. We recommend to read the note [What are Impact Evaluations?](#) before submitting an application.

Proposed impact evaluations will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- **Relevance** of the study topic for the development community, i.e. its contribution to tackle important, but understudied problems that affect a large number of people in low-income countries.
- Quality and feasibility of the **study design**, particularly with regard to:
 - Clarity of questions
 - Indicator(s) (that measure the impact of the intervention), and
 - Identification strategy (determining causal effects of the intervention and excluding other possible explanation for observed changes).
- Quality of the implementation plan to translate **evidence into practice**, i.e. using study results to scale up/down or redesign projects and interventions, and to influence public policy making in the sector.
- **Efficient use of resources**, i.e. use of existing data, seeking relevant study partners and ensure in kind contribution of the NGO/study partner.

Important dates:

- **Deadline for submitting proposals: December 4th, 2019.**
- Announcement and public presentation of the award winning study proposals: February 2020.
- Contracting of NGOs by SDC: March 2020.
- Participation in two technical 1-day workshops at NADEL: Spring 2020 and spring 2021.
- Submission and presentation of results: March 2022.

The study proposal form can be downloaded from: www.nadel.ethz.ch

Proposals can be submitted in English only.